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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 214659US0

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/970,935

Applicants: Noriko MIWA, et al.

Filing Date: October 5, 2001

For: METHOD FOR MODIFYING RAW MATERIAL
MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCT PREPARED BY
USING THE MODIFIED RAW MATERIAL MILK

Group Art Unit: 1761

Examiner: Wong

SIR:

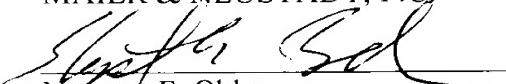
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : :

NORIKO MIWA ET AL : EXAMINER: WONG

SERIAL NO.: 09/970,935 : :

FILED: OCTOBER 5, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1761

FOR: METHOD FOR MODIFYING :
RAW MATERIAL MILK AND
DAIRY PRODUCT PREPARED BY USING THE
MODIFIED RAW MATERIAL MILK

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 13, 2003, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 2-6 and 8-12.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-identified application as follows:

Group I: Claims 2-6 and 8-12;

Group II: Claim 7; and

Group III: Claims 13-21.

Applicants have elected, with traverse, Group I, Claims 2-6 and 8-12.

Restriction is only proper if the claims of the restricted groups are either independent or patentably distinct. MPEP §803. The burden is on the Examiner to provide adequate